

It is one thing for a business to be successful; it is another milestone to achieve thirty years of success. Probably the greatest good is demonstrated by what a person gives back to the community. Debbi and Awards & T-Shirts have always demonstrated a commitment to supporting our community through sponsorship of youth sports teams, donations to community organizations, and a dedication to charitable giving by being the lead sponsor for the Annual Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) Labor Day Softball Tournament and Bowl-A-Thon.

Awards & T-Shirts' 30th Anniversary Celebration on April 26th continued this dedication to giving back through a benefit for the Autism Society—The Heartland. It was my pleasure and honor to join Debbi, her family, and team along with customers from around the country for this wonderful endeavor.

If the Speaker and my colleagues will indulge me, I would like to highlight one of my personal experiences with Debbi and her team. She and her dedicated staff came to the rescue of our Congressional Art Competition by producing the awards ribbons for the event at a moment's notice. As a woman owned business and a union signatory contractor that provides a full benefit package to their employees, Awards & T-Shirts Specialist, Inc. is a model for all small businesses in our country. The company's legacy is reflected in their customers, and I am proud to have benefitted from their outstanding craftsmanship, innovative and creative designs, and extraordinary dedication to the highest quality products.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me, as I am honored and proud to be saluting and applauding Debbi O'Donohue and Awards & T-Shirts Specialists, Inc. for thirty years of successful business.

RECOGNIZING THE ROUND LAKE AREA SCHOOLS 2014 FINE ARTS EXTRAVAGANZA

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Round Lake Area Schools' commitment to quality education and the arts. The Round Lake Area Schools, located in the suburban Chicago district I represent, will host its first annual Fine Arts Extravaganza. This program will offer an area-wide exhibition of student artwork, highlighting the extraordinary talents of our young people.

Including visual and performing arts, dance, drama and music, the Fine Arts Extravaganza is a showcase for the creative and artistic expressions of Round Lake Area students. The school district includes more than 7,000 students attending five elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school.

The study and appreciation of the arts is a bedrock quality of an expansive, well-rounded education fostering independent thought and self-expression. Our children's future prospects, and the future of our communities, are enriched when we all understand and appreciate the arts.

In the student art competition that I host, I am consistently struck by the excellence and thoughtfulness of the submitted works, and I

know that our community is filled with outstanding artists at every grade level. The 2014 Round Lake Area Schools Fine Arts Extravaganza offers another exciting opportunity to showcase much of that talent and cultivate a breeding ground for future artistic endeavors.

I am grateful for the Round Lake community's commitment to the arts and to student artists, and I am excited for many future Fine Arts Extravaganzas.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY 2014

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today is Yom Ha'Shoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. It is a day to commemorate the millions of Holocaust victims and heroes.

In the United States, Yom Ha'Shoah is observed with events in cities and states around the country. In the Los Angeles area, home to approximately 10,000 survivors, the Museum of the Holocaust held a Walk of Remembrance and a day of activities at its memorial in Pan Pacific Park.

In Washington, DC, Yom Ha'Shoah is commemorated as part of the Days of Remembrance sponsored by U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. The theme of this year's event is, "Confronting the Holocaust: American Responses." As we reflect on our country's action and inaction in the face of genocide, we study how to recognize extremism and respond before it is too late.

Holocaust Remembrance Day comes this year amidst recent acts of anti-Semitism, both at home and abroad. Earlier this month in Kansas City, three people were killed by a gunman in a tragic shooting outside of the Jewish Community Center.

In Ukraine, as the interim government attempts to return stability and democracy to its borders, we have seen groups exhibiting violence, intimidation and propaganda towards Ukrainian Jews. The international community's condemnation has been swift and unequivocal. Nevertheless, these incidents and others serve as a poignant reminder that our obligation to teach the history of the Holocaust and fight intolerance remains ongoing.

As Congress prepares to assemble for the Days of Remembrance memorial service, we rise today to honor the lives of the victims and heroes of the Holocaust. We pay tribute to them by proclaiming that the American response will forever be, "Never again."

HONORING THEODORE DAY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a small-town hero. After 20 years of exceptional service, Theodore Day has earned his Life Membership to the Gales Ferry Volunteer Fire Company.

Ted became a volunteer fire fighter with the department in 1994. Since then he has logged

in 21,000 hours serving the residents of the village of Gales Ferry and the town of Ledyard, Connecticut. Ted has responded to over 1,700 emergencies, including fires, motor vehicle crashes and hazardous materials releases. His skills and sharp instincts have been an asset to the department, enabling Ted to save lives and minimize damage to property. His courage and dedication earned him the title of Fire Fighter of the Year for 2002 and 2003.

In 2007, Ted was named Deputy Fire Chief. A strong advocate for the Gales Ferry Volunteer Fire Company, Ted has applied for grants and relentlessly pursued all avenues to save the department money. In tight budget years, Ted was able to keep the fire company running smoothly without sacrificing public safety.

In addition to his work with the Gales Ferry Volunteer Fire Company, Ted Day is a dedicated husband to his wife Tiffany and father to their children, Mason and Lia. I ask that my colleagues join with me in honoring Theodore Day for his dedication and outstanding service to the Gales Ferry Volunteer Fire Company and the community it serves.

RECOGNIZING THE FLORIDA CUSTOMS BROKERS AND FORWARDERS ASSOCIATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Florida Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association (FCBF) on its successful 55th Annual Gala.

FCBF was founded in 1960 by several Miami brokers and forwarders. Since then, it has thrived as a positive forum for the interchange of ideas; a promoter greater industry knowledge and ideals; and a powerful advocate on behalf of brokers and forwarders.

From these humble beginnings, FCBF has grown into one of the most influential and active members of the Florida freight forwarding and customs brokerage community. FCBF's active and experienced volunteer professionals have been at the forefront of matters that directly affect their industry, encouraging the development of common sense international trade policies that can help our nation thrive and protect our fragile economic recovery. Its professionals are equally committed to fostering positive working relationships amongst the trade community and federal agencies, creating a healthier environment for economic development and job creation in our state and our nation. Small business owners like customs brokers and forwarders are vital to our South Florida economy and it will be through their success that we will be able to realize true private sector jobs growth.

FCBF's annual gala celebrated over half a century of accomplishment and included the induction of John Ballestero of PortMiami, Lilly Cabrera of Lilly & Associates, Nelly Yunta of Customized Brokerage, Raymond Jones of Florida East Coast Railway, and Jorge Rodriguez into its hall of fame. FCBF was also proud to recognize the contributions of both Florida East Coast Railway and Florida Governor Rick Scott.

Congratulations again to the Florida Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association on its

recent gala and I wish all of its members continued success in the years to come.

STOP TARGETING FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I voted on Thursday, April 10, in favor of H. Con. Res. 96, authored by Budget Committee Chairman PAUL RYAN, because it is my belief that Congress has a responsibility to address our nation's fiscal crisis. This proposal is simply a way forward in the budgetary process so we can continue the debate about the financial challenges our country faces.

Like last year's proposal, the House budget plan for FY 2015 calls for significant reductions in discretionary spending, reduced taxes and the full repeal of the President's costly health care reform law. It proposes a balanced budget in the next 10 years and recognizes that we can no longer ignore the trillions of dollars in mandatory spending on entitlement programs that almost completely consume our nation's budget.

This year's plan also asks Members of Congress to again lead by example by cutting their own pay, benefits and office budgets in the quest to reduce our debt and put this nation on sound financial footing.

Further, the Ryan plan protects our nation's defense and security forces. I have repeatedly said that we must get serious about the national security threats that exist in this world and what is required of our forward presence and response forces.

Reality is that we live in a 15 aircraft carrier world. The United States Navy has 10 right now and the law says we have to have 11. We need 11 carriers in our Navy. These are mobile, sea based, warships that can sail around the globe to project power and protect our global trade and commerce.

This budget keeps 11 carriers in the fleet, giving the United States the flexibility and capabilities that are essential to the rebalance of our security posture toward the Asia Pacific, our enduring security commitments in the Middle East, and the need to respond to contingency operations around the globe.

Our nation has no greater asset than the folks who have served and are currently serving our nation, both military and civilian alike. Their dedication and service to our nation is unwavering and it is important that Congress provide the best equipment, training, and compensation so these men and women can meet their duties in full. The Ryan budget plan restores national security spending and helps our defense maintain its current strength.

These are all measures that I have and will continue to support; however, it is disappointing that this proposal, just as in past budget proposals, unfairly targets only one group of Americans for additional sacrifices: the civilian federal workforce. I have serious concerns that this resolution again forces federal employees to contribute more towards their retirement, which is the equivalent of a pay cut, and ends their defined benefit retirement plan for deficit reduction purposes.

America's First District is full of hardworking and dedicated citizens who serve the people

of this nation every day, such as on the front lines of the War on Terror or in support roles for our military. Still others provide invaluable services at places such as VA hospitals, cancer and Alzheimer's research laboratories, and law enforcement agencies such as the FBI and DEA. And yet, federal civilian employees continue to see their pay cut and their benefits reduced on multiple occasions.

Federal employees have endured a pay freeze since 2010; furloughs due to sequestration; and, most recently, were required to not work because of indecision and political gamesmanship that resulted in a government shutdown for 16 days. Enough is enough.

I am fully ready and willing to enact deeper cuts to my own salary, benefits and congressional operations, which are provisions included in this year's Ryan budget, but we must stop singling out federal employees simply because Congress continually fails to address the out-of-control spending.

There is no question that our nation must get its spending in order, and federal employees are certainly willing to do their part to help in this effort. Their daily contributions to their fellow citizens and to the cause of freedom are simply innumerable, and yet during deficit reduction debate over the last few years, federal employees have been asked to contribute much more than their fair share. Our federal civilian employees live a life of selfless service, and they deserve our appreciation.

Mr. Speaker, I voted in support of the Ryan budget because it is Congress' constitutional duty to budget and appropriate. This budget proposal is a means for Congress to further discuss our country's fiscal challenges, but I am hopeful that deficit reduction efforts going forward will focus more realistically on addressing the true drivers of our debt, rather than targeting those who are trying simply to serve their nation every day.

HONORING THE GREELEY CHORALE

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Greeley Chorale, which is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year. The Chorale, which originated in 1964 as a community chorus, performs a variety of choral masterpieces from classical to contemporary and sacred to secular. Since its inception, it has been led by several directors who have each worked diligently to garner international exposure and develop the talents of the group's ninety-four singers.

The Greeley Chorale has conducted eight international tours. In 1985, the Chorale completed a tour of Germany, the Netherlands, England, and Wales. Three years later, the Chorale was invited by the governments of the United States and Australia to sing at the opening ceremony of the World's Fair in Brisbane, Australia. In 1992, Greeley Chorale was selected as one of only three choirs to perform in the Vienna International Choral Festival, and during their 1996 tour of Scotland and England, the chorale performed the inaugural concert for the renovation of the Chapel Royale in Stirling Castle in Scotland. More re-

cently, the Chorale has visited China, Italy, and Ireland. They performed a series of concerts in each country.

At home, the Greeley Chorale works to engage the community by providing citizens with the opportunity to experience the performance of choral masterpieces as both artists and patrons. The continued vision of the Chorale in promoting classical, innovative and educational opportunities is extremely valuable to this region and to all of Colorado. Please join me in congratulating the Chorale for its fifty years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 10TH ANNIVERSARY IN THE LEHIGH VALLEY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Cancer Support Community for their decade of service to the Greater Lehigh Valley area. Since 2004, this organization has provided support, hope, and a sense of control to 26,400 people struggling with cancer in seven counties, including Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton, and Schuylkill Counties in Pennsylvania as well as Warren County in New Jersey.

The Cancer Support Community offers free programs, educational classes, and support groups to patients and their families as they undergo the difficult stages of this terrible disease. Through their works, the Cancer Support Community of the Greater Lehigh Valley ensures no one has to face cancer alone. I extend my personal gratitude to the members of the board of directors, staff, and volunteers for their invaluable service to patients and their families in these communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTRAL JERSEY CLUB OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEGRO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Central Jersey Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. as its members gather to celebrate its 50th Annual Founders' Day. This milestone is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

The Central Jersey Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (NANBPWC) was established in 1964 by 18 local women in the business community and other professional fields. Since that time, the Central Jersey Club has continued to advance the mission of the NANBPWC to promote the interests of African American business and professional women while striving to improve the quality of life for its fellow citizens.